Mr. N. Ramakrishna Pillai: I wish to add my own humble tribute to the memory of the late Mr. Adam Sait who was my intimate friend and also my colleague in the Legislative Council of 1097. Mr. Adam Sait was a sincere and loving friend, a pleasant companion and a real friend of the rich and poor alike. In his death the country has sustained a severe loss. I agree with all the sentiments expressed by the learned mover of the resolution.

President: The Chair also wishes to identify itself with the sentiments that have been expressed by the previous speakers. In the death of Mr. Adam Sait, we have lost not only a valuable colleague but also a great friend. I am personally aware that he was highly loved and respected not only by the Muslim community of which he was one of the accredited leaders, but by all communities alike. It is rare to find one such in these days of communal warfare, to come across one who was able to sail smoothly on the rough seas of communalism. From that standpoint I think the country has suffered a serious loss. It is, I think, the intention of the House that the condolence resolution should be conveyed to the members of his bereaved family. The President will do accordingly.

PROCEDURE RE: GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET AND THE VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

Before we proceed to the general discussion of the budget, I think it is usual to lay down the general lines which have got to be observed.

As you are already aware, the debate on the budget will begin to-day with a general discussion, followed by the voting of demands for grants from Monday. The maximum of four days allowed under Rule 74 has been allotted for the latter. The demands will be discussed in the order in which they appear in the printed list placed in your hands. The demands under I — Public Works Department, IV — Education and V — Land Revenue may each be discussed for half a day, and not more than one hour will be allotted for each of the remaining demands.

The procedure in calculating the time for the voting of demands will be the one adopted in previous years. A day will be taken as from 11 A. M. to 5 P. M. of which the first hour is available for questions and another hour (1 to 2 P. M.) as lunch interval. The remaining four hours will be reckoned as a full day and two hours as half a day. If the time taken up for questions and answers is less than an hour, the remaining time will also be available to the House for the voting of demands, but such available time will not go to increase the time allotted for any one demand, and will only enable the House to reach more demands.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Honourable members of the Council are of course aware that they should discuss each demand as a whole and vote upon it as a whole without moving for the reduction of any grant or of any item in a grant.

During the general discussion every member other than the Financial Secretary will be allowed not more than 15 minutes, and in the voting of demands for grants the time limit for speeches for all members will be 10 minutes. I hope honourable members will so adjust their speeches as to make it possible for a good number of their colleagues including the official members to participate in the debates.

FIXING THE DATE OF ELECTIONS TO THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE AND THE STANDING FINANCE COMMITTEE.

I may also at once make the announcement that this House will elect one representative to the Public Accounts Committee and another for the Finance Committee, on Wednesday the 12th instant, after the proceedings of the day are over. The elections will be conducted in the same way as in previous years and they will be presided over by one of the Panel of Chairmen whoever may happen to be present at the time.

We will now proceed to the general discussion of the budget.

GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: Sir, with the separation of the functions of the Financial Secretary and the Account Officer, and the creation of a new Financial Secretariat, this House legitimately hoped that it would be furnished with a true and correct exposition of the financial position of Government. But, history has repeated itself. Our new Financial Secretary, hailing with hoary experience from the other side of the Ghats, has also unfortunately fallen into the old groove of his predecessors and has, in vain, attempted, with the aid of his magic brush, to give us a seemingly presentable picture of our financial position It does not require much scrutiny to find out that this picture is after all one drawn without a back-ground. Sir, the new budget is nothing but bluff and blarney. The Financial Secretary does not even deserve our thanks for the lessons on the philosophy and orthodox canons of public finance, which he preaches in his budget speech, of course with the air and confidence of a pedagogue. He should not have expected that this House could be made to gulp, like school children, all that he professes to be good and sound canons of finance; for, aught we know, most of them are opposed to the doctrines of modern financial and economic policy accepted and followed by other Governments. His classification of "Productive and non-productive works" and the differentiation drawn by him between "Capital expenditure charged to revenue and not charged to revenue", seem to

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly